Promotion of environment friendly products in Railways

†2181. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to promote environment friendly products such as Kulhar and Khadi in Railways to promote cottage industries;

(b) if so, the details of remarkable activities done in this regard;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to introduce handmade paper stationery in the Railways; if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to promote such an employment oriented policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It was decided to introduce the use of Kulhar and Khadi w.e.f. 25.05.2004 and 09.06.2004 respectively over all Indian Railways. All licensees of catering units have been instructed to use Kulhars for serving tea, *lassi* etc. and to eliminate the use of plastic cups. Departmental units of Indian Railways and Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited are also procuring Kulhars through tribal cooperative, Khadi Village Industry and Commission (KVIC), open market, potters etc. and using on Railways. Introduction of Kulhars and Khadi/handloom products have provided job avenues for artisans and weaker sections of society as a whole. This has given additional source of earning and livelihood in the rural sector and boost to cottage industries.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Quazigund-Baramulla rail project

2182. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry intends to complete the railway track between Quazigund and Baramulla on priority basis; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, what is the time frame for construction of railway line between Udhampur and Quazigund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The target for completion of the section between Udhampur-Katra is 2006-07 and Katra-Quazigund section is 2008-09.

Corruption in delivery of goods

†2183. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints to the effect that the goods sent through Railways reach late to the consignee and in less quantity than the actual one and in addition to that they have to grease the palm of employees for getting the delivery;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome of the inquiry alongwith action taken against the persons found guilty;

(d) whether Government propose to ensure avoiding of hardships to the consignee; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Complaints have been received on railways that goods reach late and in less quantity than booked. However no specific complaint has been received about having to grease the palms of employees for getting delivery of goods.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Every complaint received is thoroughly investigated. In most of the cases consignments have been traced and delivered to the designated persons. In remaining cases claims have been settled and defaulting staff taken up under Disciplinary and Appeal Rules. During the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, 1114, 1159 and 1181 Railway

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.